

# **Montana Newsletter**

***Montana State Library***

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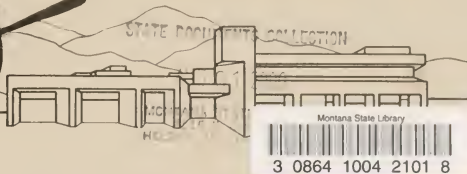
# THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

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## News



VOLUME 19, NO. 5

SEPTEMBER 1990

## Book Trunks To Make Institutional Rounds

A set of seven "traveling trunks" belonging to the State Library will soon be circulating among the Deer Lodge Valley institutions.

The trunks, filled with a variety of books for all interests, were funded through LSCA Title I and were coordinated by former Library for the Blind & Physically Handicapped director Barbara Ridgway.

The first trunk is already at the Galen Lighthouse facility; the rest will be going out in October, Ridgway said. Each trunk will remain three to four months at an institution, she added.

## Chinook Library Given Video Matching Grant

The Blaine County Library in Chinook has received a \$500 matching grant from the Carnegie Corporation in New York to help purchase 36 children's videotapes. Librarian Lee Kuhr said her library was one of just 250 across the country to receive the grant out of 1,200 libraries that applied.

She said everyone at the library was "tickled" to be receiving the "Quality Video for Youth" collection, which is valued at approximately \$3,000. The timing of the grant was also good, Kuhr noted, since the library held its first used book sale the weekend of September 15 to raise some extra money.



*Sandra Jarvie, left, Library Development Specialist at the State Library, and Barbara Ridgway, former director of the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, with some of the traveling trunks that will circulate through the Deer Lodge Valley institutions.*

## LSCA Deadline Nears

The deadline for submitting fiscal 1991 LSCA Title VI (Library Literacy Program) grant applications to the federal government is November 9, 1990.

Only state and local public libraries may apply for grants under this program. The maximum grant amount is \$35,000.

Applications are now available from Title VI Program Officer Barbara Humes at 202-357-6376.

## Five Montana Libraries Get Literacy Grants

More than \$100,000 in LSCA Title VI literacy grants have been awarded to public libraries in Montana, according to a draft list

released by the U.S. Dept. of Education.

The breakdown: Bitterroot Public Library, Hamilton, \$16,000; Butte-Silver Bow Public Library, \$25,000; Flathead County Library, Kalispell, \$25,000; Missoula Public Library, \$19,911 and \$18,520 (two grants), and Sidney Public Library, \$23,288.

## Taped Voter's Pamphlet To Be Mailed To Libraries

Staff from Secretary of State Mike Cooney's office will mail one taped Voter Information Pamphlet in early October to each public library in the state for use by patrons.

The tape, including all issues to appear on the general election ballot November 6, will also be available at the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.



ON  
LIBRARY AND INFORMATION  
SERVICES

JANUARY 6th-8th, 1991

## Governor's Conference

By the time you receive this, three of the six regional pre-conferences leading up to the January 1991 Governor's Conference on Library and Information Services will have been held.

However, you can still get involved in one of the three remaining pre-conferences: **Tamarack Federation**, Friday, Sept. 28, 10:30-3:30, Missoula Public Library; **Pathfinder Federation**, Friday, Oct. 12, 9:30-3:30, Great Falls Public Library, and **Broad Valleys Federation**, Monday, Oct. 15, 10:30-3:30, Lewis & Clark Public Library, Helena.

An at-large delegate nomination form is enclosed in this newsletter. Each pre-conference will choose four delegates to the Governor's Conference, and there will be 32 at-large delegates. (You must attend a regional pre-conference to become a delegate.)

Get involved; you can make a difference! For more information, call conference coordinator Bob Cooper at 444-5350.

## LSCA Grant Ideas Sought

The Library Services Advisory Council is seeking ideas for possible fiscal '92 LSCA Titles I and III projects. These are not actual grant proposals, nor do the ideas have to involve your own library.

Ideas will be accepted until October 17, reviewed during November and presented to the State Library Commission in December to be prioritized.

For more information and a form to present your grant ideas, contact Diane Gunderson at the State Library, 444-5349.

## Press Roundup

The following items come from recent press reports about library activities across the state:

The **Flathead County Library** received a gift of more than 1,000 paperback books and doubled its fines from 5 to 10 cents daily.

Hours at the **Glendive Public Library** expanded September 1.

**LaserCat** made its debut at the **Missoula Public Library** and its branches in Condon and Seeley Lake.

A large crowd turned out August 21 at the **Glasgow Public Library** for a reception and tour prior to the Library Commission meeting there the next day.

A new story time and after-school stories started September 14 at **Liberty County Library** in Chester.

The **Red Lodge Carnegie Library** received a \$150,000 bequest to help with the library's expansion project.

Dozens of libraries wrapped up their **Summer Reading Programs**, reporting excellent participation.

Storytellers Glenda Bell and sidekick Barb Fisher enthralled children August 23 at the **Butte-Silver Bow Public Library**. Also, members of the library's union reached a tentative contract agreement with the library.

A \$5,000 donation from a local bank will help the **Lewistown City Library** finish its expansion. The **Hearst Free Library** in Anaconda is promoting "National Library Card Sign-up Month."

The **Jocko Valley Library** in Arlee needs a new Green Thumb Program worker; Betty Plant left in June.

Major remodeling is under way at the **Wedsworth Memorial Library** in Cascade.

Trustees of the **Polson City Library** are exploring creating a new library district.

Of **Bozeman Public Library** users, 40% live outside the city, says the library's annual report.

Circulation for July was up 35% over July 1989 at the **Lewis & Clark Public Library**.

The **Great Falls Public Library** has dial-in computer access to its automated catalog as of August 21. The library's non-union workers also got a 3% raise retroactive to July 1.

## Blue Ribbon Panel To Gather September 27

The special panel being established to examine the status of Montana's libraries will meet for the first time on Thursday, September 27, from 10-3:30 at the State Library.

Members of the group, the "Montana Blue Ribbon Panel on Libraries at Risk," are being chosen by State Library Commission chair Mary Doggett from a list compiled by State Librarian Richard Miller.

The panel will produce a report on libraries' current services, future financial needs and priority development areas.



## Montana Laws Being Published On CD-ROM

The Montana Legislative Council is publishing the Montana Code Annotated on compact disk (CD-ROM). It should be available in September.

Accessible to anyone with a CD-ROM reader attached to an MS-DOS personal computer, this prototype product is not meant to replace the printed text but to help in accessing statutes, cases and administrative rules.

The compact disk, a user manual and a software diskette are \$50. For more information, contact Lee Heiman at the Montana Legislative Council, 444-3064.

## Children's Book Reviews

From now on, the book reviews will run as an insert in the *Montana State Library News*. That way, they can be pulled out and put into a notebook or otherwise saved.

The key after each review gives the grade level for which the book would be appropriate, the reviewer's assessment of the book's quality level (Q) and popularity level (P), with Q4 and P4 being the highest possible rating, the publisher's information, number of pages and price. Also included for some of the books is the date of publication and the ISBN number.

***Experimenting With Illusions***, by Robert Arnold (reviewed by Judy Stephenson, Big Sandy Schools librarian).

Reading this work leaves one wondering how far the senses can be trusted! Gardner, a retired secondary science teacher, first explores the more common visual illusions and then follows with auditory and tactile illusions.

The book is filled with illustrations and directions to enable students to conduct experiments to create or understand illusions, as well as work magic! Some experiments are quite simple; others are rather complex and may require special equipment. All can be safely conducted by older students if they follow directions and safety rules given by the author. A list of other works dealing with illusions completes the book.

(Grades 6-10; Q3/P4; Franklin Watts, New York, NY; 1990; 127 pp.; \$11.90.)

***My Grandfather The Spy***, by Corinne Gerson (reviewed by Judy Stephenson).

Danny, a city kid, gets to spend the summer on a Vermont farm turned country inn. At first, he's the center of attention in the midst of his host family, then Carla and Gramp join the extended family. Suddenly, he feels he no longer matters to the Warrens.

With help from this special "family," Danny not only survives this summer away from his mom and his aunt but thrives in a world where the Grandfather of the Year isn't even a grandfather and spies turn out to be something else.

The story is convincingly told by Danny, who relates not only his adventures, but his fears and dreams as well. Children from single-parent homes will find Danny's story especially relevant.

(Grades 5-7; Q3/P3; Walker and Co., New York, NY; 1990; 121 pp.; \$14.95.)

***Tropical Rainforests: Endangered Environment***, by James D. Nations (reviewed by Judy Stephenson).

A scenario from A.D. 2090 introduces the reader to the vital and complex role rainforests play on our planet. Tropical rainforests and their human, plant, animal and insect inhabitants are described in detail, and the interrelationships among them and the rest of the planet's creatures are explored.

Vital resources the tropical rainforests provide, such as certain foods, medicines and "living" petroleum products, are explained along with the more widely known benefits. Problems encountered in preserving this "life belt" and possible solutions to the problems are also presented.

The book provides source notes, a glossary, bibliography and index. Pronunciation keys to some of the unusual words and names would have been a helpful addition. The work is informative and thought-provoking for any age reader.

(Grades 7-12; Q4/P2; Franklin Watts, New York, NY; 1988; 143 pp.; no price listed.)

***Taking a Stand Against Nuclear War***, by Ellen Thro (reviewed by Michael Hutchinson, children's department, Flathead County Library, Kalispell).

The content is summed up completely in its title. It is a

ringing denouncement of the unthinkable: global nuclear conflagration.

The first chapters are presented in a straightforward manner. The potential effects of a nuclear war are described in clinical detail. History of the arms race, weapons in the superpowers' arsenals, and hopeful disarmament talks are also discussed. The chapter on the science of fissionable material is particularly informative.

Unfortunately, the final chapters dealing with peace advocacy and personal activism are somewhat less effective. Thro discards her previous objectivity to become a zealous champion of the anti-nuclear movement, condemning not only nuclear proliferation but also military organizations in general. Even high school JROTC programs get a negative portrayal. While the author's enthusiasm for her cause cannot be faulted, a more even-handed approach to this complex issue might have worked better.

Overall, the book presents enough hard information to more than compensate for the disappointing final chapters. It should be of value to students trying to understand the worldwide dilemma and searching for potential solutions to our uneasy future.

(Grades 9-12; Q3/P3; Franklin Watts, New York, NY; 144 pp.; \$13.40.)

***My First Picture Joke Book***, by Shoo Rayner (reviewed by Darlene Staffeldt).

A wonderful first humor book for the young child, this book combines bright, fresh, colorful illustrations and classic silly questions and answers. What animals need oiling? How does a dentist examine a crocodile's teeth?

The binding job on this book is not good. It will not hold up to multiple uses. Plan on reinforced binding or rebinding immediately.

(PS-1; Q3/P3; Viking Kestrel, New York, NY; 1989; 32 pages that are not numbered; \$11.95.)



**Handbook for the 1991 Young Reader's Choice Award Nominees**, by Bette Ammon & Gale Sherman (reviewed by Janice Bacino, children's librarian, Lewis & Clark Public Library, Helena).

The 1991 YRCA Handbook is once again a wonderful reference source as well as a wealth of ideas for improving reading programs.

Part I covers much the same material, with added ideas and comments--history of the award, voting, etc.

Part II is completely new, with the significant addition of the senior division nominees. Each of the 17 nominees is treated in detail--genre, themes, readability, interest level, excerpts of reviews, awards, author information, booktalk examples, plot summary, curriculum suggestions, other books by the author and similar books by others.

The third part is a series of useful appendices including past winners, current and previous year's nominees, state and provincial representatives, author title index and theme curriculum index.

Strongly recommended for reference for all public and school libraries.

(Reference; Q4/NA; Beyond Basals, Inc., Pocatello, ID; 1990; 134 pp.; \$10 plus \$2 shipping.)

**I Took My Frog to the Library**, by Eric A. Kimmel, pictures by Blanche Sims (reviewed by Darlene Staffeldt, Information Resources director, Montana State Library).

What happens to the quiet, clean and scholarly atmosphere when Bridgett brings her pets to the library? The pets are not your everyday pets (for example, a python and an elephant), and the messes are not your everyday messes.

This title is well written and the illustrations are great.

(PS-3; Q4/P3; Viking, New York, NY; 1990; 25 pages that are not numbered; \$12.95.)

**Basket**, by George E. Lyon, illustrations by Mary Szilagyi (reviewed by Darlene Staffeldt).

This story of Grandma's favorite kitchen basket, which gets lost in a move and is later found with something less and something more than anyone remembered inside it, is difficult to read. The illustrations are good and the message is true to life, but this is definitely not an easy reader.

(PS-2; Q2/P2; Orchard Books, New York, NY; 1990; 32 pages that are not numbered; \$14.95.)

**Taking a Stand Against Racism and Racial Discrimination**, by Patricia and Fredrick McKissack (reviewed by Larry Grieco, librarian, Stone Child College, Box Elder).

The McKissacks' book presents a clear and concise statement about racist attitudes in America. Along with an historical perspective about the deep roots of racial discrimination, the authors distinguish between racism and discrimination--the former being inside of all of us, and the latter the behavior manifesting our racism. The message is direct: laws have been enacted to affect our behavior, but only we can change what's inside of us. It goes on to tell us how.

The book is ideal for research, from a teen's point of view--the text is only 144 pages, and there is a good bibliography and index--but I think more will find themselves reading it cover to cover. It belongs in every school library.

(Grades 9-12; Q4/P2; Franklin Watts, New York, NY; 1990; 157 pp.; \$13.40; ISBN 0-531-10924-0.)

**The Foxman**, by Gary Paulsen (reviewed by Larry Grieco).

A 15-year-old boy, after being assaulted by drunken parents, is sent to live with his uncle in the northern woods of Minnesota. His adjustment to farm and outdoor life, his relationship with his uncle and cousins and his coming-of-age experience with a mysterious recluse, the Foxman, are compelling facets of this low-key and unsentimental novel. Paulsen's prose is so economical it makes you wonder why all stories aren't told

like this, inspiring the imagination of the reader. I guess because not many can succeed as Paulsen does.

Things happen to the boy that change him and at the same time make him who he is and who he's becoming--just like real-life adolescence. Originally published in 1977, Viking has repackaged this book for the 90s. If you don't already have it, you should add it to your juvenile or young adult collection.

(Grades 7-10; Q4/P3; Viking Penguin, New York, NY; 1977; 119 pp.; \$11.95; ISBN 0-670-83360-6.)

**The Bell Reef**, by Sarita Kendall (reviewed by Marilyn Taylor, children's department, Flathead County Library, Kalispell).

Located in a place few of us are familiar with, this tells of the adventures of a teenage native boy and a girl visiting Cartagena while her parents work in the area.

The descriptions are well-done and give a clear understanding of the two families. The story is written for 10-12 year-olds and possibly a slower-reading 14. A few words, such as "woken" and "leant," seemed awkward and bothered me. Whether young readers would be aware of it is hard to tell.

This story could arouse interest in a younger group toward dolphins, sunken treasure and the South American lifestyle in the area in which the story takes place.

(Grades 5-8; Q3/P3; Macmillan Publishers Ltd., Boston; 135 pp.; \$13.95.)

**The Magic Paintbrush**, by Robin Muller (reviewed by Darlene Staffeldt).

When a small orphan boy named Nib receives a paintbrush as a reward for helping an elderly man, he believes all his dreams have come true. He can now be an artist. Nib has to learn the hard way that the best pictures are the ones you make with your heart.

(Grades 1-5; Q4/P3; Viking Kestrel, New York, NY; 1989; 32 pp.; \$13.95.)



## Children's Book Author To Visit Missoula

The Five Valleys Reading Council is bringing Betsy Byars, an award-winning children's author, to Missoula during the group's annual fall conference Saturday, Oct. 5, at the University of Montana's University Center ballroom.

Registration begins at 8 a.m. and costs \$17.50; for more information, call Sue Rowe at 721-4764.

Byars wrote the Bingo Brown series of children's books, *Summer of the Swans* and *Pinballs*, among other titles.

## 1991 Summer Reading Program Help Sought

All interested children's librarians are invited to meet at about 3:30 p.m. at the Five Valleys Reading Council conference October 5 in Missoula to share summer reading program materials and discuss initial coordination of a statewide summer reading program.

(You do not need to attend the Missoula conference to be part of this effort.) For more information, call Karen Rehard at the Missoula Public Library, 721-2005, or Cathy Siegner at the State Library, 444-5353.

Also, anyone who wishes to display their Summer Reading Program materials at next year's Montana Library Association annual conference, April 25-27, 1991, in Missoula, is invited to submit them.

The deadline is January 1 for getting such materials to Greta Chapman, director of the Lincoln County Public Library, 220 W. 6th St., Libby, 59923, or to Karen Rehard in Missoula, 301 E. Main, 59802.

The summer reading program materials will be judged and awards given at the MLA conference.

Contact either Karen or Greta (293-2778) for more information.

## Upcoming Conferences

The Wilson Symposium on the Future of Public Libraries will take place September 26-29 in Omaha, Neb.

The Corette Library at Helena's Carroll College will host two OCLC Workshops on October 9 and 10. Topics will include the EPIC Service and the Interlibrary Loan subsystem. Presenters are Ruth Sawyer Johnson and Greg Doyle from OCLC Pacific. Call Lois Fitzpatrick or John Thomas at 442-1295 for more information.

The State Library is co-sponsoring the Northern Rockies Computer Expo scheduled for October 24-26 at the Billings MetraPark. (MSL's

Natural Resource Information System will exhibit at the Expo.) Thursday, Oct. 25, will be a special library-related day. For more information, call Frontier Marketing in Helena at 443-1719.

Space Design for Library Technologies and Interlibrary Loan: The Road to Interdependence, are two continuing education workshops being presented in October and November by the University of Washington Extension. For more information, call 206-543-2310.

On Saturday, November 3, Family Connections: Contemporary Families in Children's Literature will be presented at the University of Iowa in Iowa City. For details, 319-335-3231.

Several Montana presenters will appear at the Literacy Volunteers of America 1990 conference November 15-17 in Salt Lake City. They include literacy workers Nance Craft, Flathead County; Janet McMillan, Ravalli County; and Karen Shipley, Butte; plus Gloria Gregg, director of the Center for Community School Development and Field Services at MSU in Bozeman.



The new \$230,000 Belgrade Community Library was dedicated in a ceremony June 30. Numerous supporters and volunteers showed up to illustrate the community involvement that went into this four-year effort to have a spacious new facility. Sheila Cates, Coordinator of Library Development for the State Library, spoke at the ceremony in Belgrade.

## Fergus County History Fills Community Book

The Roy History Committee has published "Homestead Shacks Over Buffalo Tracks," a 516-page comprehensive history of northeastern Fergus County.

Current and long-gone towns are featured, along with personal homesteaders' stories and mining and Missouri River history. Many long-time residents of the area contributed their memories.

The book sells for \$40 and is available from Roy History Committee, c/o Jessie Komarek, Box 31, Roy, MT 59471.

## Medical Librarians To Gather In Billings

Eve Ruff, of the Regional Medical Library in Seattle, will give a workshop October 26 in Billings hosted by the Billings Area Health Sciences Information Consortium.

The workshop will be on training trainers to teach on-line Index Medicus to non-librarians.

There is no charge, but attendance is limited. For more information, call Koy Sheets at the Yellowstone Treatment Centers, 656-3001, any time after October 1.

## Calendar of Events

### September

- 27 Blue Ribbon Panel on Libraries at Risk, State Library, Helena
- 28 Tamarack Regional Pre-Conference, Missoula
- 29 Broad Valleys Federation meeting, Virginia City

### October

- 5 Five Valleys Reading Council annual fall conference, Missoula
- 9-10 OCLC workshops, Carroll College, Helena
- 12 Pathfinder Federation Pre-Conference, Great Falls
- 12-13 MLA Academic and Special Libraries meeting, Big Sky
- 15 Broad Valleys Federation Pre-Conference, Helena
- 18-19 Montana Education Association, Bozeman
- 23 Federation Coordinators, Laurel
- 24 State Library Commission, Laurel
- 24-26 Northern Rockies Computer Expo, Billings

## Around The State

### Public Library Changes:

Arriving--Bill Cochran, director, Parnly Billings Library, effective October 1; Helen Turney, director, Big Horn County Library, Hardin. Departing--Louine Abrahamson, Madison County Library, Ennis, retired effective July 28; Margaret Kieckbusch, John Gregory Library, Whitehall, resigned; Nance Fields, Sidney Public Library, resigned effective September 17.

### School Library Changes:

Arriving--Karen McNulty, Melstone Schools; Sheila Kemmer, Power Schools; Julie Radtke, Loyola Sacred Heart, Missoula.

### Academic Library Changes:

Departing--Ed Neroda, Eastern Montana College, Billings, resigned effective June 30.

Arriving--Jane Howell, acting director, Eastern Montana College, Billings, effective July 1.

## Condolences Extended

Two Montana librarians died in August: Evelyn Young, librarian at Evergreen Schools in Kalispell for seven years, and Sue Morrison, who resigned in 1986 after 17 years as Sidney Public Library director.

## Montana State Library Commission

Mary Doggett,  
Chair  
White Sulphur Springs

C.E. Abramson,  
Vice-Chair  
Missoula

Lloyd Wallin  
Deer Lodge

Nancy Keenan  
Helena

Mary Hudspeth  
Libby

Anne Hauptman  
Billings

Michael Schulz  
Dillon

Commissioners' addresses are in the  
Montana Library Directory

Richard T. Miller, Jr., State Librarian

Cathy Siegner, Newsletter Editor,  
444-5353

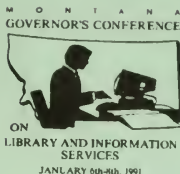
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## DELEGATE APPLICATION INFORMATION FOR THE GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE ON LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES

The Montana Governor's Conference on Library and Information Services will be held in Helena at the Park Plaza Hotel on Sunday, January 6, through Tuesday, January 8, 1991. Sixty delegates from all walks of life will be exploring the state's information needs, priorities, and possibilities. Their recommendations will become the bases for plans, policies, and programs in the 1990's. Our Governor's Conference delegates will also select from among their number the four delegates Montana will send to the White House Conference on Library and Information Services scheduled for July 9-13, 1991.

Equal numbers of delegates to the conference will be selected from four different categories:

**\* Library and Information Professionals.** Participants from this category include persons employed in the public or private sector who are actively and directly involved in the provision and/or delivery of library and information services. This includes persons from any business or industry whose primary job functions involve traditional elements of the information process (gathering, analyzing, formatting, disseminating and transferring information).

**\* Library Trustees and Friends.** Trustees include only those who are currently serving as trustees for a public, academic, special, or school library. Friends of libraries do not have to belong to an organized friends group; they should be identified by their service to and/or support of a library.

**\* Government Officials.** Participants in this category include elected or appointed persons such as Members of Congress, state legislators, county commissioners, city council members, tribal leaders, staff of elected or appointed officials, boards of government agencies, and administrators and staff of government agencies.

**\* General Public.** This category includes persons who are not currently employed in library and information services and are not included in one or more of the other three categories.

**NOTE:** Whenever a question arises as to which category an individual should represent, final determination will be made by the Subcommittee on Delegate Selection for the Governor's Conference.

The 60 delegates to the Governor's Conference will be selected in two ways. In the fall of 1990, 28 delegates will be elected at six regional preconferences and one statewide Native American preconference. The other 32 delegates will be selected immediately after the preconferences by the Subcommittee on Delegate Selection through the use of the Delegate Form.

Delegates selected to participate in the Governor's Conference are responsible for reading the preparatory materials sent to them and attending the conference. Reimbursement to delegates for travel, lodging, and meal expenses directly related to conference attendance will be arranged through the office of the Conference Coordinator.

*(Please see reverse side)*

Delegate Application Information  
for the  
Governor's Conference on Library  
and Information Services  
(continued)

If you would like to be a delegate to the Governor's Conference on Library and Information Services, please complete the *Delegate Application Form* accompanying this information sheet.

To request additional Delegate Application Forms, or for more information on the Governor's Conference, contact:

Bob Cooper, Conference Coordinator  
Governor's Conference on Library and Information Services  
1515 East Sixth Avenue  
Helena, Montana 59620  
(406)444-5350

(Please see reverse side)